

Applicant: Falone et al.
Application No.: 10/067,594

REMARKS

Claims 32-57 are currently pending in this application. By the foregoing amendment claims 1-31 have been cancelled; and new claims 32-57 have been added. Support for portions of claims 32-51 are set forth below.

Claim 32 recite that the inner layer elastomeric vibration absorbing material is free of voids therein. This amendment is supported by originally filed Figure 2 that shows a cross-sectional view of the grip layers that are free of voids. Claim 32 also recites that an elastomeric layer includes a fiberglass material therein. This recitation is supported by the originally filed specification, page 27, lines 15 and 16, which recites "Other force dissipating material such as fiberglass may also be used." The recitation of three layers is supported by the originally filed specification, page 25. The recited peripheral knob covering portion is supported by originally filed Figure 3 and by the originally filed specification, page 22.

New claim 33 is supported by originally filed figure 3 and the originally filed specification, page 22. New claim 34 is supported by originally filed Figures 3 and 4. New claim 35 is supported by originally filed Figure 2. New claim 37 is supported by originally filed Figure 5.

Claims 38-40 are supported by originally filed claims 5 and 8 and by the originally filed specification, page 29, lines 14-25.

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New claim 43 and 44 are supported by originally filed Figure 15. New claim 45 is supported by originally filed Figure 14. New claim 46 is supported by originally filed Figure 16.

Claim 52 recites a high tensile strength fibrous material. This element is supported by Applicants' recitation of aramid fibers which are a high tensile strength fibrous material. This element is also supported by Applicants' originally filed application, page 27, lines 15 and 16, which recite that the force dissipating layer can be formed by materials other than aramids.

Those claims not specifically mentioned above are supported by the originally filed specification and drawings. No new matter is added to the application by this amendment.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claims 1-31 have been rejected. Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections of claims 1-31 are moot due to cancellation of claims 1-31. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections.

NEW CLAIMS

New claims 32-57 are patentable over the outstanding rejections. Each of the claims requires three layers, one of which includes fiberglass material to dissipate

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force. Additionally, the claims require that at least one elastomer layer be substantially free of voids.

INVITATION

If any additional matters need to be addressed to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned, by telephone, at the Examiner's convenience.

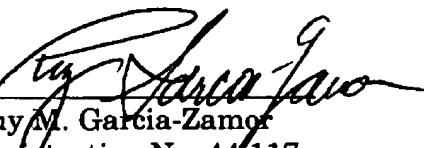
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing Amendment and Remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 32-57, is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Falone et al.

By


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